

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1 1. A method for creating an anonymous voice connection
2 over a circuit switched network between a first party and a
3 second party, comprising the steps of:
4 a) establishing a first telephone call to an anonymous
5 voice system for the first party;
6 b) establishing a second telephone call to an
7 anonymous voice system for the second party;
8 c) entering a first matchcode by the first party;
9 d) entering a second matchcode by the second party;
10 e) comparing said first matchcode with said second
11 matchcode; and,
12 f) connecting said first telephone call with said
13 second telephone call if said first matchcode matches said
14 second matchcode.

1 2. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising
2 the steps of storing said matchcode, a telephone number that
3 corresponds to the first party and a second telephone number
4 that corresponds to the second party in a memory device.

1 3. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising
2 the steps of establishing a third telephone call by the first
3 party, entering said matchcode, establishing a fourth
4 telephone call with the second party and connecting said
5 third telephone call with said fourth telephone call.

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1 4. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising
2 the steps of sending a disconnect message to a billing
3 program when said first telephone call is disconnected from
4 said second telephone call.

1 5. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising
2 the step of recording a message from the first party and
3 playing it to the second party on request.

1 6. The method as recited in claim 2, further comprising
2 the step of deleting said storage of said matchcode, said
3 first automatic number identification and said second
4 automatic number identification.

1 7. A method for creating an anonymous voice connection
2 over a circuit switched network between a first party and a
3 second party using with an on-line data service to initiate
4 the connection, comprising the steps of:

5 a) establishing an electronic communication between
6 the first party and the second party through the on-line data
7 service between a first party and a second party;

8 b) requesting an anonymous voice communication through
9 the on-line service;

10 c) transmitting a message from the online data service
11 to the anonymous voice system requesting an anonymous voice
12 connection between said first party and said second party

13 c) establishing a first telephone call for the first
14 party;

15 d) establishing a second telephone call for the second
16 party; and,

17 e) connecting said first telephone call with said
18 second telephone call.

1 ²⁸ 8. The method as recited in claim ¹ 7, wherein said
2 telephone calls are established by dialing a telephone
3 station of each party from an anonymous voice system.

1 ³ 9. The method as recited in claim ¹ 7, wherein said
2 telephone calls are established by each party dialing an
3 anonymous voice system.

1 ⁴ 10. The method as recited in claim ¹ 7, wherein said
2 anonymous voice communication is requested by selecting a
3 specific anonymous voice communication input provided by a
4 graphical user interface.

1 ^{Sub 13} 11. The method as recited in claim 7, further
2 comprising the step of providing the parties with a
3 matchcode, entering matchcodes, comparing said entered
4 matchcodes, and connecting the parties if said matchcodes
5 match.

1 12. The method as recited in claim 7, further
2 comprising the steps of storing said matchcode, a first
3 telephone number that corresponds to the first party and a
4 second telephone number that corresponds to the second party.

1 ⁷ 13. The method as recited in claim ⁶ 12, further
2 comprising the steps of establishing a third telephone call
3 by the first party, entering said matchcode, establishing a
4 fourth telephone call with the second party and connecting
5 said third telephone call with said fourth telephone call.

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1 14. The method as recited in claim 7, further
2 comprising the steps of sending a disconnect message to said
3 online data service when said first telephone call is
4 disconnected from said second telephone call.

1 15. The method as recited in claim 12, further
2 comprising the step of recording a message from the first
3 party and playing it to the second party on request.

10
1 16. The method as recited in claim 12, further
2 comprising the step of deleting said storage of said
3 matchcode, said first telephone number and said second
4 telephone number.

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1 17. A system that establishes an anonymous voice
2 connection over a circuit switched network between a first
3 party and a second party that are both coupled to said
4 circuit switched network, comprising:
5 an anonymous voice system connected to said circuit
6 switched network, said anonymous voice system receives a
7 first telephone call from the first party and a second
8 telephone call from the second party, said anonymous voice
9 system further receives a matchcode from each party and
10 connects said first telephone call with said second telephone
11 call when said matchcodes match.

1 18. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein said
2 anonymous voice system includes a switch that connects said
3 first telephone call and said second telephone call.

1 19. The system as recited in claim 18, wherein said
2 anonymous voice system includes a microprocessor and a memory
3 device which store said entered matchcodes, a first telephone

4 number that corresponds to the first party and a second
5 telephone number that corresponds to the second party.

1 20. The system as recited in claim 19, wherein said
2 anonymous voice system includes a voice processor which
3 generates audio messages that are provided to the parties.

1 21. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein said
2 anonymous voice system includes an interface to an on-line
3 data service.

1 22. The system as recited in claim 21, wherein said
2 anonymous voice system generates a disconnect message for the
3 online data service when said first telephone call is
4 disconnected from said second telephone call.

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do 1 23. A system for establishing an anonymous voice
2 connection over a circuit switched network between a first
3 party and a second party that are both coupled to said
4 circuit switched network, each party also having a data
5 terminal, comprising:
6 an on-line data service that is coupled to the data
7 terminals of each party, said on-line data service generates
8 a connect command in response to an anonymous voice input
9 provided by a party through the data terminal; and,
10 an anonymous voice system connected to said circuit
11 switched network and said on-line data service, said
12 anonymous voice system receives said connect command and
13 connects a first telephone call of the first party with a
14 second telephone call of the second party.

1 ¹³~~24~~. The system as recited in claim ¹²~~23~~, wherein said
2 anonymous voice system dials a telephone station of each
3 party.

1 ¹⁴~~25~~. The system as recited in claim ¹²~~23~~, wherein said
2 connect command includes a matchcode and said anonymous voice
3 system connects said first and second telephone calls when
4 the parties enter matching matchcodes.

1 ¹⁵~~26~~. The system as recited in claim ¹²~~23~~, wherein said
2 anonymous voice system generates a disconnect command when
3 said first telephone call is disconnected from said second
4 telephone call.

1 ¹⁶~~27~~. The system as recited in claim ¹⁵~~26~~, wherein said
2 disconnect command is sent to said on-line data service.

1 ¹⁷~~28~~. The system as recited in claim ¹²~~23~~, wherein said
2 anonymous voice input is provided by a graphical user
3 interface of the data terminal.

1 ¹⁸~~29~~. The system as recited in claim ¹²~~23~~, wherein said on-
2 line data service is coupled to the data terminals through a
3 packet switched network.

1 ¹⁹~~30~~. The system as recited in claim ¹²~~23~~, wherein said
2 anonymous voice system includes a switch that connects said
3 first telephone call and said second telephone call.

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 ~~31~~. The system as recited in claim ¹⁹~~30~~, wherein said
2 anonymous voice system includes a microprocessor and a memory
3 device which store said entered matchcodes, a first telephone
4 number that corresponds to the first party and a second
5 telephone number that corresponds to the second party.

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 ~~32~~. The system as recited in claim ²⁰~~31~~, wherein said
2 anonymous voice system includes a voice processor which
3 generates audio messages that are provided to the parties.

48